I-295/I-76/Route 42 Interchange Reconstruction

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Project Overview
- NEPA Process
- Streamlining Process
- Project Purpose & Need
  - Independent Utility
- Wrap Up – Next Session

November 14, 2002

Presented by Bill Beans & Nick Caiazza, NJ Department of Transportation
AGENDA

WELCOMING REMARKS – FHWA (5 minutes)

1. OVERVIEW OF PROJECT – Bill Beans (20 minutes)
2. NEPA PROCESS – Nick Caiazza (45 minutes)

BREAK (20 minutes)

3. STREAMLINING PROCESS – Nick Caiazza (30 minutes)
4. PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED – Bill Beans (60 minutes)
5. WRAP UP – NEXT STEP (15 minutes)
GOALS

- Build credibility
  - Present facts
  - Accept mistakes
  - Show impacts clearly
  - Be honest
  - Follow through with commitments

- Understand and address community quality of life issues

- Meet regulatory requirements

- Improve safety/congestion
PROJECT OVERVIEW
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRAINTS
STAKEHOLDERS

- FHWA
- NJDOT
- Consultants
- Authorized agencies
- Elected officials
- Public
  - CAC
I-295/I-76/NJ 42 Interchange Reconstruction Project Flow Chart

1st Public Meeting to Completion of TESs
Revised 11/04/02

1st Public Meeting

1st CAC Meeting (8/20/02)
• Establish goals
• Establish protocols/procedures
• Discuss draft Purpose and Need

1st Public Meeting (4/24/02)
• Intro to project
• Intro to process
• Intro to constraints
• Initial scoping

DGI to Develop Initial Alternatives

Local Public Officials Meeting (mid 11/02)

2nd CAC Meeting (late 11/02)
• Present initial alternatives
• Discuss rating criteria

CAC Members Meet with Public & Obtain Comments

3rd CAC Meeting (early 1/03)
• Discuss impacts of initial alternatives
• Obtain CAC input

Local Public Officials Meeting (mid 2/03)

4th CAC Meeting (late 2/03)
• Discuss & comment on alternatives
• Choose rep for partnering session

5th CAC Meeting (mid 5/03)
• View initial NJDOT matrix & shortlisting

6th CAC Meeting (late 6/03)
• Discuss community comments to shortlist

DEWBERRY-GOODKIND, INC.
• Revise alternatives, as required

Shortlist Review Meeting (mid 4/03)
NJDOT and DGI Team
• Complete matrix
• Recommend shortlisted alternatives

Local Public Officials Meeting (early 6/03)

7th CAC Meeting (early 5/03)
• View TES & engineering of shortlisted alternatives

Local Public Officials Meeting (early 6/03)

8th CAC Meeting (late 6/03)
• Update of project status

Preparation of DEIS

Local Public Officials Meeting (mid 7/03)

Agency Coordination & Streamline Concurrence Mtgs. (concurrence on recommended IPA)

Agency Coordination & Streamline Concurrence Mtgs. (if required)

Agency Coordination Meetings (ACM) will be added whenever necessary, throughout the process.
NEPA PROCESS
STATUS OF NEPA PROCESS

- EIS
- NOI – 10/24/01
- Scoping process
SCOPING ACTIVITIES TO DATE

- Notice of Planned Action (12/10/01)
- Partnering/early scoping meeting and bus tour (12/11/01 & 12/12/01)
- Initial Public Scoping Meeting (4/24/02)
- Individual agency meetings
  - SHPO (9/24/02)
  - ACOE & NJDEP (10/09/02)
- First agency coordination meeting (11/14/02)
# AGENCY RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF PLANNED ACTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGENCY</th>
<th>RESPONSE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US Army Corps of Engineers</td>
<td>Agency interested in participating in NEPA process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USEPA</td>
<td>Comprehensive, detailed response encouraging DOT to rigorously explore and objectively evaluate all reasonable alternatives  ♦ Analyze direct, indirect and cumulative impacts</td>
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<tr>
<td>NJDEP</td>
<td>Assess potential impacts to water quality during construction and operation</td>
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<tr>
<td>NJ Transit</td>
<td>Coordinate highway and transit efforts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Evaluation of area planned for transit project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Fish and Wildlife</td>
<td>Agency had no record of Federally listed T&amp;E species occurring within or in vicinity of project area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Marine Fisheries Services</td>
<td>No known species or critical habitat under agency jurisdiction known to exist in project area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NJ Turnpike Authority</td>
<td>No comment at this time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Coast Guard</td>
<td>Project does not fall under agency jurisdiction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ADDITIONAL FEEDBACK

- Streamlining
- Independent utility
- Constraints
- Purpose and need
- Quality of life
- Methodology for historic architectural studies
- Methodology for wetlands delineation
EIS PROCESS

**SCOPING**

**STEP I**
Purpose & Need

**STEP II**
Develop Alternatives

**STEP III**
Technical Studies/Alternatives Analysis

**STEP IV**
Draft EIS Distribution/Public Hearing

**STEP V**
Final EIS/ROD

**STEP VI**
Design

**STEP VII**
Construction
PROJECT SCHEDULE

- TES (2004)
- Draft EIS (2005)
- Final EIS (2006)
STREAMLINING PROCESS
STREAMLINING = PROGRESSIVE CONSENSUS
FORMAL STREAMLINING PROCESS

- Indiana
- Texas
- Pennsylvania
- California
- MATE
STREAMLINING PRINCIPLES

- Define agency roles early
- Respect each agency for their role and responsibility
- Agencies work to find acceptable and compatible solution
- Agencies strive to be effective in process
- Address issues immediately; scoping is ongoing
- Seek equitable balance of impacts to all resources
- Formal concurrence at major milestones
- Only revisit after concurrence if major changes
- Success is based on level of ownership, effort and level of resources
STREAMLINING/404 MERGER PROCESS

*NOTE: If preferred alternative is identified.*
CONCURRENCE FORM

INTERSTATE 295/INTERSTATE 76/ROUTE 42 INTERCHANGE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT
CAMDEN AND GLOUCESTER COUNTIES, NEW JERSEY

Responsible Organization: New Jersey Department of Transportation

Project Manager: Nicholas Caiazza
New Jersey Department of Transportation
PO Box 600
Trenton, NJ 08625-0600
(609) 530-2991
(609) 530-5787 (facsimile)
nicholas.caiazza@dot.state.nj.us

Supporting Documentation:
Purpose and Need Statement August 2002
Independent Utility Statement September 2002

Definition of concurrence: "Written determination by the agency that the project information to date is considered adequate and the agency agrees the development process can be advanced to the next stage. Agencies agree not to revisit the previous process steps unless project conditions substantially change."

The NJDOT in conjunction with the FHWA is conducting a study of the proposed I-295/I-76/Rt.42 Interchange Reconstruction Project. The interchange project has been developed according to NJDOT procedures.

The project team for the I-295/I-76/Rt.42 Interchange requests concurrence on the attached Purpose and Need statement for the Environmental Impact Statement.

Concur as Presented _____ Concur with Comments______ Do Not Concur_____

Comments:
Statement of Non-Concurrence:

__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
CONCURRENCE FORM (cont’d.)

Additional Information Needed:

________________________________________

___________________________

Signature: 

___________________________

Agency: 

___________________________

Date: 

Please return this form to the New Jersey Department of Transportation Project Manager by December 14, 2002
**PROJECT FLOW CHART**

I-295/I-76/NJ 42 Interchange Reconstruction

Project Flow Chart

1st Public Meeting to Completion of TESs

Revised 11/04/02

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1st CAC Meeting (8/20/02)
- Establish goals
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Local Public Officials Meeting (mid 11/02)

2nd CAC Meeting (late 11/02)
- Present initial alternatives
- Discuss rating criteria

Local Public Officials Meeting (mid 2/03)

3rd CAC Meeting (early 1/03)
- Discuss impacts of initial alternatives
- Obtain CAC input

Local Public Officials Meeting (mid 2/03)

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Draft Scoping Document

1st Public Meeting
- Discuss scoping & screening criteria

Final Public Scoping Screening Meeting

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Cac Members Meet with Public & Obtain Comments

Agency Coordination Meeting (ACM) (early 1/03)
- Review Alternatives re: Purpose & Need
- Review TESs

DGBG Meeting (late 6/03)

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Completing Scoping Document

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Finalize Summary Scoping Report

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Cac Members Discuss Shortlist with Public

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Agency Coordination & Streamlining Concurrence Mtgs. (early 7/03)
- Concurrence on alternative to proceed to TES

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Agency Coordination & Streamlining Concurrence Mtgs. (concurrence on recommended IPA)

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Partnering Session (if required)

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Local Public Officials Meeting
- Update project status

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Completion of TES & Continuing Engineering of Shortlisted Alternatives

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**NOTE:** Agency Coordination Meetings (ACM) will be added whenever necessary, throughout the process.
PROJECT PURPOSE & NEED
SUBSTANDARD BRIDGES
Creek Road over I-295
SUBSTANDARD BRIDGES
Creek Road over I-295
SUBSTANDARD BRIDGES
OPERATIONAL DEFICIENCIES

I-295/
Route 42 Weave
OPERATIONAL DEFICIENCIES
OPERATIONAL DEFICIENCIES
TRAFFIC (everywhere)
LEVELS OF SERVICE

OPERATIONAL DEFICIENCIES

1. NB I-295 LOS D IN A.M.
2. SB I-295 LOS D IN A.M.
3. SB I-295 LOS E IN A.M. AND P.M.
4. SB I-76 LOS E IN P.M.
5. NB I-76 LOS E IN A.M.
6. NS RT-42 LOS D IN A.M.
7. SB RT-43 LOS D IN P.M.
8. RAMP A LOS F IN A.M. AND P.M.
9. RAMP B LOS E IN A.M.
10. RAMP C LOS F IN A.M. AND P.M.
11. RAMP D LOS E IN A.M. AND P.M.
12. RAMP F LOS E IN A.M.
13. WEAVING SECTION LOS F IN A.M. AND P.M.


New Jersey Department of Transportation
1-295/1-76/Rte. 42
INTERCHANGE RECONSTRUCTION
GEOMETRIC DEFICIENCIES
I-295 SB - Al-Joe’s Curve
SUBSTANDARD GEOMETRIC FEATURES
QUALITY OF LIFE

Local Streets?
EMERGENCY RESPONSES

RESPONSES
2000 = 160
2001 = 166

RESPONSES
2000 = 66
2001 = 50

TOTAL RESPONSES
2000 = 425
2001 = 439

RESPONSES
2000 = 199
2001 = 223
1999 ACCIDENT RATES

less than the State average
1 - 2x the State average
2 - 3x the State average
3 - 4x the State average
over 4x the State average
I-295/I-76/Route 42

Purpose & Need
PURPOSE: The purpose of this project is to improve traffic safety and reduce congestion at the Interchange of I-295/I-76/Route 42.
I-295/I-76/Route 42 Interchange Reconstruction
Purpose & Need Statement

- **NEED:**
  - Improve safety
  - Correct geometric and structural deficiencies
  - Meet driver expectations
  - Correct operational deficiencies
I-295/I-76/Route 42 Interchange Reconstruction Purpose & Need Statement

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

- Improve roadway safety by meeting driver expectations
- Reduce cut-through traffic to improve local mobility and I-295 level of service
- Improve regional mobility and support economic development
- Reduce air pollution level
- Reduce state and local financial burden by lowering accident rate
- Reduce noise levels
- Minimize and mitigate all environmental impacts as practicable
- Conduct effective streamlining process
- Foster public trust through ongoing outreach
- Minimize disturbances to quality of life
DISCUSSION
MISSING MOVES
I-295/ROUTE 42
PURPOSE & NEED
PROJECT AREA

GLOUCESTER CITY

MT. EPHRAIM

BELLMAWR
MISSING MOVES STUDY

Preliminary
July 2000

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

INDEPENDENT UTILITY STUDY
FOR THE
I-295/I-76/ROUTE 42
INTERCHANGE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT
AND THE
I-295/ROUTE 42
MISSING MOVES PROJECT
SHOWING THE MISSING MOVES IPA B-5

Dewberry-Goodkind, Inc.

FIGURE NO.
3
MISSING MOVES
I-295/ROUTE 42

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the proposed Missing Moves project is to provide a connection between I-295 northbound and Route 42 southbound and between Route 42 northbound and I-295 southbound and to improve the flow of traffic between these two roadways.
MISSING MOVES
I-295/ROUTE 42

- NEED:
  - System Linkage
  - Driver Expectations
  - Operational Deficiencies
MISSING MOVES
I-295/ROUTE 42

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

- Reduce local congestion and improve local mobility
- Improve roadway safety by meeting driver expectations
- Minimize and mitigate environmental impacts to extent practicable
- Minimize disturbance to quality of life
INDEPENDENT UTILITY

- 23 CFR 771.111(f)
INDEPENDENT UTILITY

- 23 CFR 771.111(f)
  - Connect logical termini
INDEPENDENT UTILITY

- 23 CFR 771.111(f)
  - Connect logical termini
  - Have independent utility
INDEPENDENT UTILITY

- 23 CFR 771.111(f)
  - Connect logical termini
  - Have independent utility
  - Not restrict consideration of alternatives for other foreseeable transportation improvements
DISCUSSION
WRAP UP – NEXT STEP